



# The Dixie Ranger

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Editors: Bert & Betty Bray Vol. XXIV No. 3 September 1994

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Thirty-one people attended the June luncheon to hear J. H. Morgan, President, Button Gwinnett Chapter of NARFE. Mr. Morgan stated that there are 3 million federal employees in the workforce; 2 million receive annuities and only 10% are members in NARFE. The Button Gwinnett Chapter has 250 members and about 75 attend their luncheons. Cost to join this local chapter (#1348) is \$6 plus \$15 for National. For a chapter in areas outside Atlanta, please call 1-800-627-3394 to determine the chapter nearest you and the dues amount. Both dues are sent to NARFE, Budget & Finance, 1533 New Hampshire Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036-1279. Mr. Morgan urged people to join the National Association of Retired Federal Employees.

Hob Howard and his wife, Helen, of St. Petersburg, FL were in town and able to attend the luncheon. Recent retirees who attended for the first time were Nancy Sorrells, Jimmy and Ann Walker, and Ralph Mumme.

Ralph Mumme, Director, Timber Management, represented the Regional Office and brought us up-to-date on what is happening in the Region. The recent buy-out encouraged 2500 retirements nationwide, with 250 of those in the Region and 37 in the R.O. There are 5 Directors pending retirement. Out of 16 Directors, only 7 are left.

Gloria Manning, formerly WO-CF, is the new Deputy for Resources. She is returning to Region 8. Ms Manning at one time worked in Planning and Budget in Land Management Planning.

Our next luncheon is on September 15 at the Petite Auberge Restaurant in Toco Hills Shopping Center. Please call Andrea at 347-4178 to make reservations no later than September 12.

## RETIREMENTS

Due to the number of retirements this issue, only the names and the units from which the employee retired are being listed.

### *REGIONAL OFFICE*

Virginia Adams, NTSL, Macon, GA  
 Sandra Ahern, Fiscal & Accounting  
 William Atkinson, Civil Rights  
 Bud Braddock, Director, Recreation  
 Joe Brown, Director, Cooperative Forestry  
 Ruby Crumley, Management Systems  
 Roger Dennington, Cooperative Forestry  
 George Dissmeyer, Soil, Water & Air  
 Harold Flake, Forest Health  
 Henry Foote, Engineering  
 Leon Furnish, Engineering  
 Dorothy Holliday, Cooperative Forestry  
 Charles Huppuch, Recreation  
 Mary Huppuch, Lands & Minerals  
 Patricia Kane, Planning and Budget  
 Robert Kitchens, Timber  
 Robert Lentz, Deputy Regional Forester, S&PF  
 Elinor Martin, Planning and Budget  
 Jacqueline McClure, Soil, Water & Air  
 Robert Mesteller, Management Systems  
 Marv Meier, Deputy Regional Forester, Resources  
 Ralph Mumme, Director, Timber Management  
 Gary Murphy, Engineering  
 Mary Phillips, Planning and Budget  
 Donald Ratcliff, Procurement  
 Douglas Scholen, Engineering  
 Nancy Sorrells, Timber  
 Kenneth Swain, Forest Health  
 Harvey Toko, Director, Forest Health  
 Jimmy Walker, Timber  
 Betty Wallace, Management Systems  
 Billy Williams, Personnel  
 Lois Willis, Timber

### *NATIONAL FORESTS IN ALABAMA*

Richard K. Sampson, Forester, Range, Timber and Wildlife, SO

### *OUACHITA*

John Thomas White, Supervisory Forester, Jessieville RD

### *OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS*

#### Supervisor's Office:

Jim Flanders  
 John B. Fortin, Jr.  
 Jack T. Kriesel

Supervisor's Office continued:

O. D. Smith, Jr.  
Norma Wood  
Betty J. Moore

Bayou Ranger District:

Odell Chronister  
Robert Squyres  
Ernest Owens

Boston Mountain Ranger District:

O. D. Hopper  
George Johnston  
Grady Sharp  
John Watkins  
Bob Wells  
Thomas Wells

Buffalo Ranger District:

Lois Brightwell  
John Dick  
Joe Ham

Magazine Ranger District:

Dorial Canada  
Tommy Hill  
Bobby Roberson

St. Francis Ranger District:

John William McClinton

Sylamore Ranger District:

William Balentine  
Robbie Jeffery  
Richard Mills

*NATIONAL FORESTS IN MISSISSIPPI*

Roy J. Smith, District Ranger, Biloxi District

*NATIONAL FORESTS IN NORTH CAROLINA*

Tom Campbell  
Larry Crompton  
Abe Fernandez  
Tom Gibson  
Fred Nebrig

*FRANCIS MARION AND SUMTER NATIONAL FORESTS*

Horace Jarrett, District Ranger, Andrew Pickens

*NATIONAL FORESTS IN TEXAS*

Carl Gidlund, PAO, SO

*WASHINGTON OFFICE*

Timber Management: Karl Bergsvik  
 Jerry Jeansonne  
 Ron Lewis  
 Dick Miller  
 Dan Schroeder (Ft. Collins)  
 Esterlean Stackhouse  
 Doyle Turman (Ft. Collins)

Human Resources Program: Wilburn R. See, Deputy Director

Administration: Rex Hartgraves, Associate Deputy Chief

Computer Science and Telecommunications: Thelma Owens, Training

*REGION 3*

Bert Bowannie, Chevelon RD, Apache-Sitgreaves NF, Arizona

*REGION 6*

Grover Payne, Group Leader, Protection and S&PF, Wenatchee National Forest, Washington

*REGION 9*

Henry "Hank" Kleppek, Eastern Region Mensurationist, Timber, RO

*REGION 10*

Mike Barton, Regional Forester, Juneau, AK

*FOREST PRODUCTS LAB*

John Zerbe, Acting Program Manager for FPC&R Technology Marketing Unit (formerly Program Manager for the Energy from Wood Unit).

*Note from Editors: Should any of these new retirees live in your area, encourage them to join the SFSRA and receive THE DIXIE RANGER. Dues are only \$8 per year.*

## PERSONNEL CHANGES

Chief Ward has appointed R. Forrest Carpenter to fill a new senior program analyst position in Atlanta, GA, to give special emphasis to policies affecting the natural and human environment. In this position Carpenter will conduct special and independent studies and follow through on implementation.

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Dr. Roger Fritz quoted in *Bottom Line*, July 1, 1994 says time is your most precious resource. How you use it will determine the quality of your life. *Take time to:*

- ◆ Think: It is the source of self-renewal.
- ◆ Play: It will keep you young.
- ◆ Read: It will rejuvenate your mind.
- ◆ Worship: It is the acknowledgment of your limitations.
- ◆ Help needy people: It will return more than you give.
- ◆ Show love: It is the key to life's greatest satisfactions.
- ◆ Daydream: It will provide a road map for your future.
- ◆ Laugh: It restores your balance.
- ◆ Work on new skills: It will keep you in demand.
- ◆ Plan: It will determine whether you have time for anything you want to do.

Roger Fritz, PhD, is a consultant on change and author of *What Managers Need to Know*.

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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Oliver Buckles, P. O. Box 65, Moncks Corner, SC 29461

Jim Burner (Joan), 1806 Stuart St., NW, Cleveland, TN 37311

Charles Huppuch (Mary), 30 Malvern, Madison, VA 22727

Robert J. Lentz, 4181 Jeri Lynn Ct., Tucker, GA 30084

Ralph Mumme (Kathleene), 3570 Yarmouth Hill, Lawrenceville, GA 30244

Earl Priegel (Jane), 129 Carolyn Dr., NE, Eatonton, GA 31024

O. D. Smith (Pat), 126 Stream Road, Russellville, AR 72801

Jimmy Walker (Ann), 2213 Valley Creek Cir., Snellville, GA 30278

Bob Watson, 6515 Hwy 360, Tellico Plains, TN 37385

Please add the above names to your Directory and make the following changes to the Directory:

Beecher B. Colvin (Carolyn), 115 Hickory Hill Dr., Tellico Plains, TN 37385 Phone: 615 253-3636

Allan Friedrich (Elva), 4436 Meandering Way, Apt. 205 A.G., Tallahassee, FL 32306

John Lamb (Shirley) 1487 Candleberry Ct., Lilburn, GA 30247

Vera H. Thorsen, 2560 Kenzie Terrace, Apt. 218C, St. Anthony, MN 55418

Bryant E. Watts (Joyce), Rt. 1, Box 450, St. Matthews, SC 29135-9743

Dick Woody, 3489 State Hwy 60, Suches, GA 30572 Phone 706-747-5461

Please add these spouse names to your Directory:

Melvin Anhold - Mary

John Beal - Vietta Phone: 205 349-1840

Phil Archibald - Barbara

Dick Fitzgerald - Mary

Mrs. Sam Greenwood - Joyce

Dinnie Lambert - Rose Mary Phone: 601 587-2242

Leon Powell - Unity

Frank Sharp - Bridgitte

Donald Skrehot - Melba

James L. Tarlton - Jean



## LETTERS FROM OUR MEMBERS

J. FRANK PALMER, JR. - Walhalla, SC. I do appreciate the effort you people put in getting the material together and getting *The Dixie Ranger* out.

It is surprising how many of you I remember since I was a Technician and did not move around like most of you I read about. I spent my entire time on the Sumter National Forest. We still live in Walhalla—been here over 45 years.

We garden, have a few fruit trees and some cows.

We have two sons who are Foresters. Francis works for Georgia Pacific and lives in Springfield, GA. Mike works for International Paper Co. and lives in Alvin, Texas.

As I look back and remember things that we thought very important, then see how things are run now, I think it is good that I am retired. Don't believe I could bend that much.

CHARLES HUPPUCH - Madison, VA. Mary and I are now glad to join the ranks of *The Dixie Ranger* and we are trying to learn how to be good retirees. Do you have any good courses on this subject or must we learn on our own? We are enjoying not getting up at 4:30 a.m. to beat the Atlanta traffic and breathing real air again.

Mary and I have moved to Madison, Virginia, where we live with my mother as we try to build a new home near Staunton—not very far from the George Washington NF.

I'm looking forward to working with the Appalachian Trail Clubs here in Virginia and doing hands on work on the Trail. Mary and I hope to do some environmental education work for the George Washington NF that seems exciting and needed at this time.

We would welcome all our Forest Service friends to see us in Virginia.

GERALD WARD - Mtn. View, AR. I noticed in the last issue that Fred Ames passed away last September. Mr. Ames served as a Ranger on the Sylamore RD-Ozark NF in the early 1940's. He hired my dad, Carl Ward, in 1942 to work as a Technician for the duration of the War. He called it a "War Time" appointment. My dad expected to be terminated after the War so that Johnny Carson, who had to go to service, could have his job back. However, Johnny took a job on another District and my dad was able to complete a career with the Forest Service. He retired in 1969 and passed away in 1978.

I recognize several of the names that appear in *The Dixie Ranger* and know several of them. Keep up the good work and I would like to see more letters and information from retirees.

JOHN E. BOREN - Alexandria, LA. Jim Wenner's description of Joel Nitz's trips through the Black Forest of Germany bring back some memories. Not only of the years that Joel and I spent on the Kisatchie fighting fires, some in the woods and some in SO, but of how the Germans treated their forests. Was stationed at Ramstein Air Base, Landstuhl, Germany, '58-61, as a special agent, Office of Special Investigations, USAF. The Base Commander was a big golfer and the 9 hole course just wasn't big enough. He decided to enlarge it by nine holes by cutting down a bunch of trees. Couple of days after the project started, the local Forest Meister (comparable to our Forest Supervisors) came into my office and announced he had an arrest warrant for the Base Commander for destroying the forest. Seems as though after a tree reached a certain height or age, it was given a number and plotted on the area map. The arrest warrant and map showed each tree by number that had been cut down. Needless to say this caused much consternation in the temples of the Air Force. After much diplomacy, abject apologies, and promises of never again, the charges were dropped. Nope, the extra nine holes were not put in. At least not while I was at Ramstein.

Wife Kay and I are still motorhoming our great country. Traded in our '89 Pace Arrow which had almost 85,000 miles for a '93 Pace, which we are just breaking in. We've been to Alaska twice, every province and territory of Canada, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, Labrador, and everyone of the 49 States. Haven't built a bridge to Hawaii yet.

Nuf for now. Big hello to all our friends and if you come through Alexandria, please call. We probably won't be home, but leave a message.

O. D. SMITH - Russellville, AR. Now that I have entered the ranks of Forest Service retirees, I guess it is about time I joined your organization and started getting my own copy of *The Dixie Ranger*. I have enjoyed reading the *Ranger* for years but until now have been freeloading on someone else's membership.

Pat and I will continue to live in Russellville which, after 15 years, seems like home. Three daughters and three (soon to be four) grandkids living here also provide a powerful incentive to stay in the area. We would be pleased to have any of our old friends stop in to see us if they are passing this way.

ALLAN FRIEDRICH - Tallahassee, FL. You are probably surprised at the Tallahassee address. In fact, we are getting used to it. During the last weekend in January, our two daughters, Sharon (Jacksonville) and Carol (Fort Walton Beach) came up together and put the heat on us to make the big change. They knew that Elva was not recovering properly from a fall on the pavement in May '93 and wanted us to move down here for the "easy" life, where we'd be halfway between them—three hour's drive either way. So



we all four drove down and selected our apartment and agreed to join the organization. This started one of the most hectic 3-month period of our 57 years together.

To beat a cost increase at the facility we decided we had to close the deal and move in by the first of April. That gave us 2 months to sell our home—5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths on 8/10 acre, dispose of all our 56+ year accumulation of "things" that we would not have room for in our one bedroom, 1 1/2 bath (890 sq.ft.) apartment, and move from North GA to North FL.

We closed the sale on our home on March 25, loaded the moving van on the 28th, drove to Tallahassee on the 29th and the moving van arrived on the 31st. We still have boxes we haven't opened. We are finally getting to the stage where we realize we are in "high cotton" or "hog heaven", depending on where you (the reader) are from. We are in the midst of a 90-some acre forest with oaks that must be hundreds of years old and large beds of azaleas at least 6 feet high. All the buildings, which house around 350 residents, are high-class, solid, red brick surrounded by beautiful lawns, beds of flowers, flowering shrubs and oaks with branch spread of about 100 ft. or more. The name of the place is "Westminster Oaks"—a Presbyterian Retirement Community that provides graduated care from independent living to full care (including Alzheimer's). There are a lot of old folks here but most of them are smiling. We feel that at this stage of our life this is exactly the place for us and we expect to spend the rest of our lives here. It's really care free and about as secure as anyone could hope for—yet we are free to come and go as we wish.

Imagine our surprise when at one of the community "town hall" meetings a sweet little lady came and sat down by Elva. Elva had seen her in the dining room a few times and thought she looked familiar. It was May Schaeffer, widow of George K., who I was always proud to feel was a true friend. May's son Larry, who recently retired from the Forest Service here, comes every week or so to share breakfast with her, so we are looking forward to meeting him. Y'all come see us!!

**MELVIN ANHOLD** - Bridgewater, VA. Thanks for the dues reminder. Retirement has been good. The high point of each year is elk hunting in the fall. I'm usually with three of my four sons. It's one of those bonding rituals that's very satisfying. The rest of the year, Kiwanis and NARFE take up much of my time. I have acted in the position of President of each organization.

Mary is still working so our travel is quite limited. She's planning to retire in '95 so we will expand our horizons and take off as much as possible.

**DON SKREHOT** - Lufkin, TX. As always, the June issue was great. Especially enjoyed John Moser's letter.

Couldn't help but recall the time when John headed up a Business Management Inspection at Jacobs Creek Job Corps where I was AO at the time. Since we were located in the mountains some 18 miles

East of Bristol, TN and nearby lodging was non-existent, the Team (John, Ron Farris, and Selden West, best I recall) decided to camp in one of our recreation areas and do a little fishing on the side.

One mid-morning, while Ron and Selden were hard at work inspecting, Deputy Center Director Mike Conley called me in for my annual performance evaluation. We were in the midst of some serious discussion when suddenly there was a loud tapping on the window. Thinking something pretty bad must be happening to interrupt our closed-door session, we rushed outside to see what it was. Standing there unshaven and looking like he had been digging ditches or worse, John said "Do you have a can or something I can put salamanders in?" (For fishbait, of course!) Needless to say, the performance evaluation continued in a much lighter mood.

A belated Happy Anniversary, John, and I hope the fish are biting better than they did back then.

Also want to say hello to Bob Thatcher and family in Asheville and mention that John Stransky and I still get together to do a little shooting prior to each deer season.

DON GERRED - Oxford, MS. Being retired for 23 years seems to have ruined my letter writing ability, but here's a little news.

Bob Baker stopped on his way back to Atlanta from attending his grandson's graduation—the grandson was Valedictorian of his class. We spent the night rehashing old times, getting up to date on what happened to whom, etc.

Bob Pearl came through Oxford early in May—I was out but he and Susie got reacquainted.

As I told you when I sent in my '93 dues, Susie had a severe attack of congestive heart failure so she is and has been confined to bed for about 2 years. An oxygen tube keeps her alive but not active.

*(Don's grandson called us on July 19 to inform us that his grandmother passed away on July 18. Our deepest sympathy to Don and his children and grandchildren).*

EVELYN WILLIAMS (MRS. ALVA B.) - Reno, NV. I have been going through papers, pictures and publications since Al passed away on February 12, 1994. I came upon the book *Forestry Education at The University of California, The First Fifty Years* and found inside this Dedication to Professors written by Al.

"To WALTER MULFORD for demonstrating that cultured men, too, practice forestry;  
To BARR for making us think—and like it;  
To FRITZ for explaining that our families also need bread and meat;

To SAMMY for showing us that foresters are dedicated;  
 To KRUEG for helping us see that teaching can also be done  
 outside of classrooms and books;  
 To KITTREDGE for proving that from little raindrops huge seas are  
 made;  
 To WOODY for illustrating how to teach and sing "Allouette" at  
 the same time;  
 And to BAKE, God bless him, for most amiably teaching us that the  
 whole business is FUN. Inspiration of Alva B. Williams '35

I wish all forestry students and future foresters could feel as  
 Al did about his wonderful profession.

I hope I am up with *The Dixie Ranger* dues, as I enjoy reading  
 each publication as it comes in. I also look forward to hearing  
 from old friends at Christmas time, so please write at least a  
 little note.

J.V. MACNAUGHTON - Harrisonburg, VA. From a member who has not  
 yet pulled the pin. Whenever I mention anything about retirement  
 around Victor, he advises me to forget it. I secretly think he  
 wants me to exceed Jack Kirby's record!

It soon will be 18 years since my escape from the R.O. to the  
 beautiful mountains of Virginia and the George Washington NF as  
 Forest Engineer. (Engineering Staff Officer or Ecosystem  
 Technology Staff Officer to get with the times).

Some retirees that I see occasionally are Bob Brooks (Timber  
 Staff), Mel Anhold (Recreation Staff), John Crittenden (AO), and  
 George Rose (LA).

Our '94 reduced budget is causing us to do things that are not  
 good for the Service. Two of our six Districts have eliminated  
 machine grading of forest roads. Fleet Equipment FOR rates have  
 been cut 50% for '94. No training and no overnight travel. We  
 can do these things for a year or two without permanent harm but  
 no longer.

JOHN BEAL - Tuscaloosa, AL. First, let me begin this letter by  
 saying that you two have been doing an excellent job putting out  
*The Dixie Ranger*. I don't envy you of this job because I know it  
 takes a lot of your time and work.

I saw another F.S. retiree just recently. John W.C. (Bill) Eaton  
 and his wife, Lois, came through Tuscaloosa and stopped by to  
 visit with us. They were in their recreation vehicle, and on  
 their way home from an extended trip. At one time Bill and I  
 were on districts of the Oakmulgee area in Alabama. He was D.R.  
 on the Oakmulgee R.D. and I was D. R. on the Tuscaloosa R.D.,  
 both of these districts being a part of the Talladega NF in AL.  
 At one time we had three rooms in a county office building in  
 Centreville. Bill and I shared one secretary between us. That  
 didn't last long though. I was transferred to Tuscaloosa. Then

I was located in the new Federal Building and the Cahaba River was shared by us. It divided the two Districts.

Over the years I have been on the Florida NFs, the Kisatchie, the Talladega NF in AL and twice on the Ouachita NF in AR. I retired from the F.S. in December 1976 after 39 years and 7 months longevity.

**DINNIE LAMBERT** - Monticello, MS. Greetings from the free State of Lambert, MS! Thanks for the red mark on issue before last of the DR. The latest one came yesterday. I had let the red mark slip. I seem to forget things badly any more (wonder why?). Thanks for sending the latest anyway 'cause it has the '94 directory. Really enjoyed looking it over. Many names, many memories. Even tho I hardly remember what I had for supper last night!

Just got back from France for 2 weeks. #1 son (Dinnie, III) lives in Paris. He's been there about 14 years now. Spent 4 days in Holland with friends of his. Great 2 weeks. But tiring. We are still drained. Missed the tulips in Holland—it was too late. #2 son is near Harrisonburg, VA. He is a custom-built cabinet maker and plays a lot of bluegrass music (mandolin).

About 3 1/2 years ago, I changed careers again and became a Funeral Director. I work part-time at our local small town, country funeral home. Mostly, I serve as FH host for visitations and work all the funerals. I help some in the "back room" and occasionally go on a "pick-up". We have about 100-120 a year. Keeps me kinda busy at times but slack at other times to cut about 2 acres of grass, hunt some, fish some in our pond, and work in my woodworking shop.

Rose Mary teaches high school math at a private school about 20 miles from here. She says she will keep at it until it's not fun anymore.

I sure have been saddened with the obits in DR. But glad to know of them so I can do something. Although I know it's kinda hard and sad to do, please keep on including them.

**EARL PRIEGEL** - Greensboro, GA. It was a great surprise to hear from Betty Mc and get an invite to join your group. Up to now my name must have been lost in the shuffle.

My wife, Jane, and I have just completed 10 years of retirement. The first 4 years we sailed our 40' boat up and down the East coast and the last 6 years I was extremely active with salt water fishing (mostly offshore). Sold out in Nov '93 and moved back to GA and the kids.

We are now living with a ghost in a large 100-year old house on Main Street in Greensboro, GA while awaiting our new house at Reynolds on Lake Oconee (this is #8). We are the first inhabitants, in 100 years, who are not family. Our ghost loves our old dog, but do we have a time with bats, footsteps and weird noises.

While I had some stormy times with the Forest Service, I also had some rewarding times in reintroducing cable logging to the South. Helicopter logging seemed a fad, but it had (and does have) a place in Timber Management.

The Forest Service has always had good people and I'm sure it will be around a few more years. Hope to make one of your luncheons.

JOEL H. NITZ - Hot Springs, AR. We thank all of you, including the Officers and Board of Directors for keeping the *Ranger* alive.

I thought that Bob Neelands' "They Called Them Workshops" was a gem. Also have enjoyed his other contributions as well. His article brought to mind a couple of workshops that swept the Region. The first was "Instructors Training." Regional Forester Jim Vessey must have observed that in-service training needed much improvement. I think that everyone on board would probably have agreed with him.

As I recall, he mandated that every professional, and perhaps others in higher levels of supervision, be required to take this training. When it came my turn to take this highly intensive training course, I believe it was given in some exotic place like the RO. Our instructors had just taken the course about two weeks before, so were "red hot and ready" to impart their newly perfected skills on us.

Each trainee was to select a subject which would be the core and source of information he had to use for the entire week. He/she had to expand on that subject using all sorts of training aids: chalk board, easel, overhead projector, handouts, etc. For my subject I chose Prescribed Burning because it provided me with unlimited material for expansion and demonstration. I felt sorry for some who ran out of subject material in the first couple of days. Like all good things, it came to an end.

But in a couple of weeks, we instructors held "Instructors Training" on our own National Forests in Alabama. This time we were "red hot and ready" to share our skills with the less fortunate on our Forest. Again, our training site was selected for us in the historic Heart of Dixie, Montgomery, AL. About all I can remember from this experience was Tom Hooper's subject "The Sport of Golf." Not being very familiar with the sport, I found Tom's subject interesting and enlightening.

The other training that was prescribed was "Lippert's Letter Writing Course." It was directed primarily to those in Supervisor Offices who initiated and those who typed in-service and business letters. Dr. Lippert came around for one day a month (?) for several months, leaving Minnesota and then visiting other Forests for a day before coming to the SO for the Francis Marion and Sumter NFs. One of his techniques was to pick up at random a number of letters from the reading file. His objective was to critique and eliminate hackneyed phrases, third-person

references, etc. Whenever he found that someone had written "feel free to call me at any time," he said, "There will be no 'free feeling' in this class!" Again, it was a valuable course for us all.

CHARLES ROSS - Corvallis, OR. I enclose dues for *The Dixie Ranger*. It is very interesting to read so many recollections of the past as well as what forestry people do in retirement and what they think of this bewildering world. The fact that Elsie and I know hardly any of them doesn't lessen our interest. To be able to maintain a newsletter of such quality is an outstanding achievement and a testimonial to the abilities of the Editors.

If you can find a blank space, please ask if anyone knows the address of Richard I. Lowndes, son of Elizabeth Plumb Lowndes who died October 20, 1992. Elsie and I would like to contact him. We were long-time friends of his parents.

Note from Editors: Mr. Ross is a retired forester after a career with the Oregon State University Extension Service. He is a founder and board member of the Greenbelt Land Trust of Corvallis. He and his wife, Elsie, established the Land Donation Trust Fund with a contribution of \$75,000 to the City of Corvallis for acquisition of open space. Beginning in 1984, the Rosses have been preeminent in funding purchases of park land and open space in Benton County and Corvallis.

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#### LAND SET ASIDE FOR FORESTRY MUSEUM

An agreement between the U. S. Forest Service and a non-profit group that is trying to develop a National Forest Service Museum provides for the use of a 36-acre site just west of the Intermountain Fire Sciences Laboratory, near Missoula, Montana, International Airport.

Plans call for a \$12 million project, including the construction of a 100,000-square-foot building. The project will depend primarily on private contributions, but also will involve public funds.

Regional Forester David Jolly, during the signing ceremony, said he has "a very strong interest in museums, and safeguarding our history."

"The people in this country need to understand the history of the national forests and the Forest Service," Jolly said.

*Missoulian*, Saturday, April 23, 1994

## QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE

We were surprised and delighted by the response to last DR issue's questionnaire. Dozens of people wrote in extensive answers to a range of questions, making it somewhat difficult to summarize responses.

One theme that prevailed was that the letters from members forms the heart of your newsletter, and "just seeing a friend's name" in print give many people joy.

On a more somber note, several suggested obits and the necrology were a sad but vital part of our reporting, and wanted them continued.

Many are obviously involved in volunteer work in their communities, donating their time and talents to make a difference in their immediate surroundings. Walt and Florence Guerrero, for instance, have for several years spent a month each summer as Hosts in George Washington NF campgrounds.

In addition, many also pursue active personal interests. For example, Don Ashworth has written a novel featuring foresters, and including incidents based on his career experiences. He awaits publication. Bill Bergoffen and others contributed input to the recently published "Smokey Bear 20252" biography written by William Clifford Lawter, Jr., and now available in both hardcover and paperback. (We are in the process of obtaining a copy to 'review').

One could gather that certain people, like Hob and Helen Howard, are making a career of travel. Betty and I thought we were fairly world-traveled, counting Alaska as a forty-seventh country visited, but Hob mentioned the 120 countries on six continents visited so far. He says it is difficult to book passage to a place not seen before.

A majority of respondents expressed a willingness to write brief articles or stories from their own experiences, or at the least from observed experiences. Please, start sending them in. We hope to eventually use each and every one. And don't hold back because you have trouble putting them down on paper. You will probably surprise yourself at how easy it really is, once you get started.

Oh, before I forget—several issued invitations for retirees to join them any last Tuesday morning for breakfast at Matthew's' Cafeteria in Tucker, GA. And we invite you to attend the September luncheon on the 15th at Petite Auberge in Toco Hills.

*Bert Bray*

*IN MEMORIAM*

It is with deep regret that we inform you of the death of E. B. "Rip" Williams, age 84, past Editor of *The Dixie Ranger*. Mr. Williams died on the morning of July 2 of a massive heart attack at Arbor Terrace where he moved earlier in the year.

Mr. Williams served as Editor of *The Dixie Ranger* from January 1986 to May 1989. He recruited the Brays to succeed him.

Memorial services were held on July 5 in Atlanta. Attending the service were Jean Brands, Theo Evenson, Bert and Betty Bray.

Mr. Williams is survived by his daughter, Diane B. Williams of Lilburn, GA; son Edward B. Williams, Jr., of Norcross, GA, three granddaughters and one grandson.

Preceding him in death in January, 1981, was his wife, Betty L. Croke Williams.

Martha Mae Hall, wife of former Management Systems employee, Ray Hall passed away on May 4, 1994, in Florida.

Mack L. Little, 62, Lufkin, Texas, passed away November 27, 1993. He is survived by his wife, Joan of Lufkin; son Jonathan; daughter Robin; and 6 grandchildren.

George Vitas, 80, of Alexandria, VA, died in April 1994

Sam Tunnell passed away June 24.

Edna Mae Gerred, wife of Don Gerred, Oxford, MS, died July 18. She is survived by her husband, one daughter, three sons, 11 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

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*A Thank You from Harvey Mack, Curator, Forest Service History Center, Corona, CA:*

The Forest Service History Center on the Cleveland Forest now is physically complete and ready to become operational. Your contributions of historic photographs and objects represents a major part of our success in this effort. We feel that we probably have the best historic display in the Service. In our search for these historic objects, we have contacted some 2,500 retirees in all regions and the response has been wonderful.

We wish to thank all of those who made such important contributions and hope that you will continue to keep us in mind if and when you should find additional historic objects to share.



## REMEMBERING

*by Dave Larson*

Some years ago, personnel had the policy of sending out notices on retirement seminars for those within a year or so of being eligible to retire at age 55. I received one such notice from Roman Pfeffer and decided to have a little fun with it by substituting Sandy Silver's name for mine and putting the notice in his "in" basket. It didn't take long for the fun to begin. Sandy read that notice and immediately called Roman. He was really taking Roman to task about his not being old enough for retirement seminars when he heard all of us who were in on the joke, standing in the doorway laughing. He paused and said to Roman "I think I've just been had."

Here's another one about Sandy. For those who don't know him, he's a Gerald Ford look-alike. (He's even from Grand Rapids, Michigan too). Now to the trick Sandy played on us. He went to a meeting at Upper Darby, PA, and someone there gave him a wig. When he returned to our office, he had that wig on and no one here recognized him. He got a big laugh over that one.

Back in 1955, I believe it was, Paul Russell was assigned to the Mississippi River Tribe project in Memphis. He was almost immediately hit with a report deadline for which almost no field data was available. Al Spector, Bob Baker, and myself were called on to get this data from the Loosahatchie River bottomlands. The bottomlands were almost more water than land, but we kept fairly dry by crossing from one piece of land to another by scrambling over fallen trees, logs, brush, etc. Bob and I were light weights and these "bridges" held up for us quite well, but Al Spector was the heavyweight and he crashed through a good share of these "bridges." It didn't take Bob and I very long to not let Al go first, because he destroyed the bridges as he crossed, and there was no retreat once Al had crossed.

Harry Rossoll invited Al Spector and me to go fishing with him at Hard Labor Creek State Park lake. He had rented a cabin there and we drove to the park, arriving after dark. When daylight came, Harry was going to fix breakfast, but to our surprise, there was no stove, just a fire place. So we fried eggs the hard way in a fire place. After breakfast was out of the way, we went on the front porch, and there to our chagrin was a grill on the opposite side of the fireplace.

Harry brought out an electric fan and proceeded to make himself comfortable on the porch. He said "You guys go fishing—I just want to relax here." The boat had no oars—just a couple of sticks. We fished for the longest time with nary a nibble so we came in hungry and exhausted from paddling with sticks. Harry said, "Where's the fish?" "I counted on having fish for dinner". He then said, "All I have is one can of spaghetti and meatballs." We shared that one can, devouring it in just a few bites and

scraping our paper plates so much that we almost ate the plates too. That was a trip we never forgot, or let Harry forget.

On another fishing trip with Harry, Al Spector, John Henry, and I went to Sautee or Soquee Creek in North Georgia. We got to the area before daylight, filled with the anticipation of a hearty breakfast at LaPrades Camp before starting our fishing. Harry had really built up our expectations. It turned out that this was the day they weren't open for breakfast. So our breakfast was some crackers Harry had brought along. We kidded Harry about that for a long, long time. We survived until LaPrades opened for lunch, but just barely.

Harry was always up to something and the easiest way to find out what it was, was to say to him, "What's this we've been hearing about you?" He'd immediately say "If it's about--- or about---" and before we knew it, he'd confessed to all sorts of things we'd never heard about.

Then there's the story I heard about land line surveyors in Alabama. I don't remember the principals involved, but it seems that while surveying land lines, the surveyors were threatened by a man with a shotgun. This upset them considerably and when they returned to the Supervisor's Office they reported what had happened. Someone in the office told them they didn't have to worry about such situations as "it's against the law to shoot a Federal Officer."

\* \* \* \*

**WOMEN MAKE GAINS IN FOREST SERVICE** -- In 1931, Forest Service policy excluded women from the field force. But by 1992, a civil rights report showed that 40% of the Forest Service's 32,000 employees nationwide were women, and this year 23 of 122 forest supervisors and 112 of 671 district rangers are women. The Pacific Southwest Region has done the most to promote women; 45% of its work force and 6 of its 18 forest supervisors are women.

*Oregonian* June 13, 1994

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**PROMOTION CRITERIA FOR FEDERAL WORKERS MAY CHANGE** -- The Office of Personnel Management is proposing that Federal workers be eligible for promotion regardless of time in grade. Currently, Federal workers must serve in their jobs for at least a year before they are eligible for promotion. The new rule is designed to enable advancement by newer employees and to eliminate any expectation of automatic advancement after a year in grade.

*The Washington Times* June 14, 1994

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A PHOTOGRAPHER'S WOES  
*by Bob Neelands*

Many of us retirees will remember Dan Todd who, during his years as photographer in the RO, produced some fine pictures. Those of us who worked in the field with Dan would also recall his tendency to be somewhat of a fuss-budget. Well, actually, one would consider Dan being a "bit fussy" in the same sense that the ocean could be considered as "a little damp."

On one occasion, Dan was on the Kisatchie to photograph the cutting-down of a large hardwood tree. After several days of reviewing the District's choices, Dan selected a huge oak for his subject.

In preparation, land around the old forest giant, an area of perhaps a quarter-acre, was cleared of all vegetation. A crew was selected to cut the tree, the men were properly outfitted, a big flatbed truck was positioned "just so" to serve as the camera platform; light-meter readings were taken and retaken from many angles, and detailed instructions given to all concerned. There was a considerable wait while the sun and clouds reached perfection.

Finally, FINALLY, Dan gave the word to "GO." The chainsaw roared, clouds of smoke and sawdust gushed out, the old tree swayed, slowly toppled, and crashed to earth with unbelievable thunder.

As anyone knows who has seen a great tree felled, for a few seconds after it and its debris have settled, there is a moment of complete silence. Birds are hushed. No one speaks. There is almost no sound at all. Into this sound-void came a wild cry of anguish: "Oh, X!&/!." It was Dan. (Retirees, your grandchildren can fill in the word for you). I hurried over from my assigned point of banishment. "Dan, what's wrong? Are you all right?" No reply. "Dan, what happened?" Silence as he busily collected gear. "Dan, is everything OK?" Not a word (rapidly stowing gear).

Well, after he explained it like that, I gave up. I never saw the photo, nor did anyone else. And Dan never would speak of it, unless it was in private consultation with his Creator.

The only moral to this story is, as the poet Robert Burns wrote: "The best laid schemes o' mice and men gang oft-a-gley."

I better translate that (the Bard obviously had what might be called a wee bit o' a drinking problem): "Man is man, and plans are plans, and never the twain shall meet."

Hmmm. That doesn't make any sense either.

ROCKIES TO BE DANCING WITH WOLVES -- As the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service prepares to reintroduce the gray wolf to parts of Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming, including Yellowstone National Park after an absence of more than 60 years, ranchers worry about their livestock. However, Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary George Frampton, Jr., says the plan "comes with the weight of a lot of consensus," and give ranchers a wide scope of protection from wolves. The plan ends two decades of debate over wolf reintroduction. *The Los Angeles Times, May 5, 1994*

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A REMINDER—The luncheon on September 15 at Petite Auberge. Please phone in reservations to Andrea. Also, please mark your calendars now for the Christmas luncheon on December 8. Reservations for that luncheon should be made no later than December 5. A newsletter will not be mailed prior to that luncheon—only a post card and to those who live within the area. We would very much like to have all of you at the Christmas luncheon. Many of our members make this luncheon and its a good time to visit with each other.

GLORIA  
MARRAS

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